
**TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
of the
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS'**

**July 6, 2006
Minutes**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. AN AUDIOCASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Transportation and Communications Committee held its meeting at the SCAG office in Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Harry Baldwin, Chair, City of San Gabriel. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Adams, Steve (via teleconference)	Riverside, WRCOG
Aldinger, Jim	City of Manhattan Beach
Baldwin, Harry (Chair)	City of San Gabriel
Beauman, John	City of Brea
Bone, Lou	City of Tustin
Burke, Yvonne	City of Los Angeles
Correa, Lou	Orange County
Dale, Lawrence	City of Barstow
Daniels, Gene	City of Paramount
DeLara, Juan	City of Coachella
Flickinger, Bonnie	City of Moreno Valley
Garcia, Lee Ann	City of Grand Terrace
Herrera, Carol	City of Diamond Bar
Lowenthal, Bonnie (Vice-Chair)	City of Long Beach
Mikels, Judy	Ventura County
Moqet, Shenna	Riverside, WRCOG
O'Connor, Pam	City of Santa Monica
Ovitt, Gary	San Bernardino County
Pettis, Greg	Cathedral City
Roberts, Ron	City of Temecula
Stone, Jeff	Riverside County
Szerlip, Don	South Bay Cities COG
Talbot, Paul	City of Alhambra
Uranga, Tonia Reyes	City of Long Beach
Wapner, Alan	City of Ontario

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Members Not Present

Becerra, Glen	City of Simi Valley
Brown, Art	City of Buena Park
Buckley, Tom	City of Lake Elsinore
Dixon, Richard	City of Lake Forrest
Dunlap, Judy	City of Inglewood
Gabelich, Rae	City of Long Beach
George, Gary	City of Redlands
Gurule, Frank	City of Cudahy
Hernandez, Robert	City of Anaheim
Joffe, Enid	San Gabriel Valley COG
Lowe, Robin	City of Hemet/RCTC
Marshall, Patsy	City of Buena Park
Miller, Paul	City of Simi Valley
Millhouse, Keith	City of Moorpark
Rutherford, Mark	City of Westlake Village
Smith, Greg	City of Los Angeles
Smyth, Cameron	City of Santa Clarita
Spence, David	Arroyo Verdugo COG
Sykes, Tom	City of Walnut
Tyler, Sidney	City of Pasadena

Voting Members, Not Elected Official

Casey, Rose	Caltrans
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1.0 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE

The Honorable Harry Baldwin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0 REVIEW and PRIORITIZE

Staff advised Chair Baldwin that City of South Pasadena requested that Item 5.3 be pulled from today's agenda and be postponed to be brought up at the next meeting of the TCC.

4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Approval Item

4.1.1 June 1, 2006 Minutes

Councilmember Bone, City of Tustin, noted that the meeting location reflected in the minutes should be changed from the Westin in Long Beach to the Marriott in Marina del Rey.

4.2 Receive and File

4.2.1 State and Federal Legislative Matrix

MOTION was made to APPROVE the Consent Calendar items with the amendment to the Minutes. Motion was SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 2006 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

Rich Macias, SCAG, stated that in June he came before the Committee requesting that the TCC allow the Executive Committee to approve the release of the Draft RTIP which was not available in print at the time. The TCC approved the release of

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the Draft RTIP. Subsequent to that, when the Draft RTIP became available; staff mailed a CD-ROM, containing the draft, to the members of the TCC.

Today staff is requesting that the Regional Council delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve the final Draft 2006 RTIP, and the associated transportation conformity determination. Staff is also recommending that TCC approve the Draft 2006 RTIP pending completion of the public review process that will close on July 25, 2006.

A public hearing was held on the RTIP on June 29 at SCAG. Staff received no public comment at the hearing. In the event that significant comments are given once the Public Review process ends on July 25th, staff will convene with the TCC and SCAG's attorney, Karen Tachiki, to discuss the comments.

Several TCC members expressed their concern of not being able to review a hard copy of the Draft 2006 RTIP prior approving Item 5.1. Mr. Macias clarified that as agency representatives, the members of the TCC had until July 25 to review the draft and make comments in writing. Any comments would then be brought back to the TCC for discussion.

Supervisor Yvonne Burke, County of Los Angeles, stated that today's vote was to recommend to the Regional Council to authorize the Executive Committee to approve the final draft with comments. The Executive Committee will hold a special meeting on July 27, 2006 to approve the final 2006 RTIP. Today's issue is whether or not to authorize the Executive Committee to approve the final Draft 2006 RTIP after the public comments. Supervisor Burke strongly urged that the TCC not go out of compliance on the RTIP. Staff indicated that all RC members could participate in the Executive Committee meeting on the 27th via-teleconference to express their opinion, concern, or issue they have.

MOTION was made to APPROVE the Draft 2006 RTIP and associated transportation conformity determination. And, also recommend to the Regional Council that it delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve the final 2006 RTIP and associated transportation conformity determination. MOTION was seconded and APPROVED. Councilmember Carol Herrera, City of Diamond Bar, voted NO on the MOTION. Councilmember Bonnie Flickinger, City of Moreno Valley and Councilmember Ron Roberts, City of Temecula, ABSTAINED.

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5.2 Delegation of Authority to Executive Committee to Adopt the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendment

Phillip Law, SCAG, stated that the RTP Amendment proposes to add one Bus Rapid Transit project to San Bernardino County. Last month the TCC approved release of the Draft 2004 RTP Amendment for 30-day public review and comment period. SCAG held a public hearing at its office on July 6, there were no attendees. To date, staff has not received any written comments. The public comment period closes tomorrow, July 7, at 5:00 p.m. If any comments are received, staff will prepare a matrix of the comments and SCAG's responses. Staff will then e-mail the matrix to the TCC members.

Staff requested that the TCC adopt the Draft RTP Amendment.

MOTION was made to APPROVE the Draft 2004 RTP Amendment and recommend to the Regional Council that it delegate authority to the Executive Committee to adopt the final 2004 RTP Amendment. MOTION was SECONDED and APPROVED. Councilmember Carol Herrera, City of Diamond Bar, voted NO on the MOTION.

5.3 Resolution Regarding the 710 Gap Closure Tunnel Alternative

Bob Huddy, SCAG, stated that staff had completed the tunnel study with MTA and there were a series of public presentations as a result. Staff is in the process of holding further discussion with South Pasadena councilmember's on the issue. Until the discussion is complete, the City of South Pasadena requested that the item be pulled from today's agenda.

Mr. Huddy then introduced Hal Suetsugu, Transportation Manager, City of South Pasadena. Mr. Suetsugu stated that South Pasadena desired a few language critiques to the Resolution to meet both SCAG's and South Pasadena's concerns. South Pasadena also desired some additional time to further review the feasibility study. Mr. Suetsugu asked that the TCC postpone the item until the September meeting of the TCC.

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The TCC concluded that the item would be postponed and brought forward as an item at the September meeting with the understanding that there will be no more continuances and there be a very specific staff recommended action.

MOTION was made to POSTPONE the item until September with no further continuances. MOTION was SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 Report on the Draft 710 Tunnel Feasibility Study

LACMTA staff gave a brief overview on the findings of the Draft 710 Tunnel Feasibility Study Assessment. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency, along with staff participation from SCAG, Caltrans, the Cities of Alhambra, La Canada, Los Angeles, Pasadena, San Marino, and South Pasadena, has completed the Draft Route 710 Tunnel Technical Feasibility Assessment Report. The report examined the technical feasibility of a tunnel alternative for completion of the 710 Gap Closure from Valley Blvd., in the City of Los Angeles, to California Blvd., in the City of Pasadena.

After a series of community meetings with the affected corridor cities conducted by District Director of Caltrans, SCAG, and LACMTA, on the possibility of using a tunnel option to complete the 710 Gap Closure, LACMTA contracted with Parsons Brinckerhoff to do the Route 710 Tunnel Technical Feasibility Assessment. LACMTA put together a Technical Committee of the agencies and impacted corridor cities to review the consultant work. The Draft Technical Assessment was issued for public review in June 1, 2006, and a public workshop on the Assessment was held on June 22, 2006.

A wide variety of alternative full tunnel options were developed for the assessment. Additionally, an extensive analysis of technical, geologic, preliminary environmental scoping, traffic, and financing issues, was done. The assessment found that given the current technology and the known conditions in the corridor, it would be feasible to consider the completion of the 710 Gap Closure using a full tunnel option. Final development of a full tunnel option, as a preferred alternative

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to complete the 710 Gap Closure, will require significant additional environmental analysis, design and engineering work.

The feasibility assessment concludes that there are no insurmountable issues that will preclude further analysis of the tunnel concept. The next step of the LACMTA is to actively engage the local agencies and community stakeholders. LACMTA held a public information meeting on June 22nd and made a presentation at the South Pasadena City Council meeting on June 28th, and is scheduled to make a presentation at the San Gabriel Valley COG this evening. LACMTA will be presenting their findings to the remaining city councils throughout the summer. LACMTA will also compile comments and responses to the current report as an addendum and will be submitting this packet to the Metro Board as a Receive and File item in the Fall.

6.2 Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan

Arno Hart, RNO Group LLC, gave a presentation on the status and goals of the Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan (MCGMAP).

Mr. Hart stated that in July 2005 the five County Transportation Commissions, SCAG, and the four Caltrans Districts in region initiated a contract for the MCGMAP. This effort is expected to yield consensus on a set of goods movement strategies, including projects that will be included in the next RTP.

The action plan will analyze a number of future scenarios, including various combinations of potential growth in container volume and level of infrastructure investment.

Public input on the MCGMAP has been obtained through a series of Stakeholder Advisory Group meetings being held in various locations around the region. The MCGMAP team has also sent out a public survey which has resulted in approximately 150 responses, which are being tabulated by the consulting team. A second survey is planned to obtain feedback on the consensus strategies.

7.0 MAGLEV TASK FORCE REPORT

There was no report.

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8.0 CHAIR REPORT

There was no report.

9.0 STAFF REPORT

There was no report.

10.0 GOODS MOVEMENT TASK FORCE REPORT

There was no report.

11.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None noted at this time.

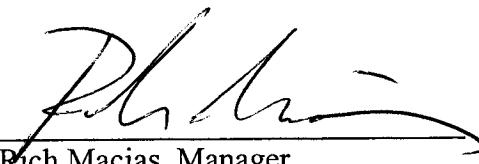
12.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Honorable Harry Baldwin, adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

The next committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 14, 2006 at SCAG's office.**



Rich Macias, Manager
Transportation Planning Division